

OFFICIAL

Serial No. 10/056774

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**RECEIVED
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Applicant: Holmberg, et al.

Examiner: Thomas Sweet

JUL 06 2004

Serial No.: 10/056774

Group Art Unit: 3738

Filed: January 24, 2002

Docket No.: 01610.0106-US-01

Title: CONDUIT FOR AORTA OR PULMONARY ARTERY REPLACEMENT

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Fax Number (703) 872-9306 on July 6, 2004.

Hallie A. Finucane
Name of Person Signing This Certificate

Hallie A. Finucane
Signature

**AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION
UNDER 37C.F.R. §1.114**

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper accompanies a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and is responsive to both the final Office Action January 5, 2004 and the Advisory Action mailed June 10, 2004.

A Notice of Appeal and Petition for Extension of Time were filed on May 5, 2004, thereby setting a new two month shortened statutory period for filing an Appeal Brief that expires on July 5, 2004. In lieu of an Appeal Brief, Applicants are submitting this RCE and Amendment.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2. Remarks begin on page 11. There are no amendments to the specification or drawings. Further examination and reconsideration of the present application in view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein is respectfully requested.

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Amendment Accompanying RCE